

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PINS YO PFOR US YO

SUBJ: "ANTI-YUGOSLAV CAMPAIGN IN US PRESS"

REF : A) BELGRADE 6512 B) BELGRADE 133

1.SUMMARY: COMMENT IN TITO NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE HAS SIGNALLED SERIES OF YUGOSLAV PRESS ATTACKS ON ANTI-YUGOSLAV PRESSURE FROM WEST, AND FROM WESTERN PRESS IN PARTICULAR. PRETEXT FOR ATTACKS WAS EVIDENTLY PROVIDED BY RECENT BALTIMORE SUN SERIES ON BALKANS, WHICH HAS BEEN LINKED WITH AUSTRIAN PRESS SPECULATION AND WESTERN SUPPORT FOR LOCAL UNIVERSITY DISSIDENTS AS EVIDENCE OF "SYSMETATIC, SUSTAINED ANTI-YUGOSLAV CAMPAIGN." END SUMMARY

2. OVER PAST TWO WEEKS YUGOSLAV PRESS HAS BEGUN TARGETING NEW "ANTI-YUGOSLAV CAMPAIGN" IN THE WEST. ATTACKS WERE HEALDED BY COMMENT IN TITO NEW YEAR MESSAGE ON ANTI-YUGOSLAV PRESSURE CAMPAIGN " IN SOME AMERICAN, AUSTRAIN, AND OTHER EUROPEAN PAPERS." SPECIFIC MENTION OF US EVIDENTLY BASED ON DEC 22-24 BALTIMORE SUN SERIES ON BALKENAS BY SUN CORRESPONDANT MICHAEL PARKS AND OTHERS.

3. NEXT MENTION WAS ARTICLE APPEARING JAN 6 IN BELGRADE
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EVENING DAILY VECERNJE NOVOSTI SPECIFICALLY ATTACKING SUN

SERIES AND PARKS, LINKING SERIES TO RECENT PRESSURE CAMPAIGN BY "RIGHTIST CIRCLES" IN THE WORLD. VECERNJE NOVOSTI PARKS' ERRONEOUS INFORMATION "AMERICAN EMBASSY", "CIA REPORTS", AND OPPOSITION YUGOSLAVS. THIS ARTICLE WAS REPLAYED IN JAN 7 TANJUG (TEXT IN JAN 8 FBIS), BUT WITH MORE OBJECTIONALBE PARTS REMOVED, INCLUDING REFERENCES TO EMBASSY AND CIA. (NOTE: VECERNJE NOVOSTI HAS SOMEWHAT POOR REPUTATION IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES HERE. SEVERAL ARTICLES CRITICIZING PAPER'S INTERNAL COVERAGE HAVE RECENTLY APPEARED IN BORBA.)

4. BORBA COMMENTARY JAN 8 WIDENED ATTACK TO COVER "SYSTEMATIC, STEADY ANTI-YUGOSLAV CAMPAIGN" DESIGNATED TO UNDERMINE YUGOSLAV INTERANL SYTEM AND INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION THROUGH "SPECULATIONS", "HALF-TRUTHS, AND LIES" ABOUT YUGOSLAVIA. TEXT IN JAN 8 FBIS). BORBA FOR FIRST TIME LINKED CAMPAIGN TO WESTERN SUPPORT FOR "SECERAL BELGRADE PHILOSOPHERS" (REF. ?). THIS SUPPORT HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN ATTACKED IN SEPARAT CONTEXT (REF .A). JAN 10 VJESNIK RAN COMMENTARY ALONG SAME GENERAL LINE AS BORBA NOTING THAT "CERTAIN AMERICAN PAPERS ARE TAKING THE LEAD" IN RENEWED ANTI-YUGOSLAV CAMPAIGN.

5. LCY EC MEMBER DUSAN POPOVIC, IN CONTEXT OF LONG ARTICLE ON YUGOSLAV INFORMATION MEDIA IN JAN 13 BORBA, LINKED RECENT ARTICLES IN THE WESTERN PRESS "OF A MARKEDLY MALICIOUS CHARACTER" TO ATTEMPT TO COUNTER SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT ON SELF-MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN YUGOSLAVIA. POPIVIC MENTIONS "CERTAIN AMERICAN AND WESTERN EUROPEAN NEWSPAPERS AND ESPECIALLY LARGE NUMBER OF AUSTRIAN PAPERS WHICH ARE UNSCRUPULOUSLY SPREADING HATRED AND LIES ABOUT YUGOSLAVIA". THESE PAPERS ARE, IN PART, TRYING TO PROTECT CERTAIN ANTI-SOCIALIST AND ANTI-SELF-MANAGEMENT "POPOVIC MENTIONS "CERTAIN AMERICAN AND WESTERN EUROPEAN NEWSPAPERS AND ESPECIALLY LARGE NUMBER OF AUSTRIAN PAPERS WHICH ARE UNSCRUPULOUSLY SPREADING HATRED AND LIES ABOUT YUGOSLAVIA". THESE PAPERS ARE, IN PART, TRYING TO PROTECT CERTAIN ANTI-SOCIALIST AND ANTI-SELF-MANAGEMENT "PROTEGES" (STRONGLY RESEMBLING UNIVERSITY DISSIDENTS, FROM POPOVIC'S DESCRIPTION).

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6. COMMENT: ONLY REFERENCES TO SPECIFIC ARTICLES IN ABOVE HAVE BEEN TO BALTIMORE SUN SERIES, THUS IT SEEMS PROBABLE TO US THAT SERIES WAS SPARK THAT SET OF CURRENT ATTACKS. CERTAINLY REFERENCES TO US PRESS SEEM BASED ON SUN ARTICLES ALONE.

7. SERIES SEEMS TO HAVE COME AT CONVENIENT TIME TO BE TIED TO SUNNING YUGOSLAV ATTACKS ON AUSTRIAN PRESS SPECULATION AND RENUWED LCY ATTACKS ON UNIVERSITY DISSIDENTS. THIS

AND YUGOSLAV TENDENCY AT THE LEAST PROVOCATION TO SEE MASSIVE AND
CORRDINATED CONSPIRACY PROBABLY ACCOUNT FOR MAJOR PART OF CURRENT
FUROR.

3. DUE TO VOLUME OF COMMENT AND INQUIRIES FROM OTHER EMBASSIES,
WE WOULD APPRECIATE POUCHED COPY OF SUN ARTICLES.
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